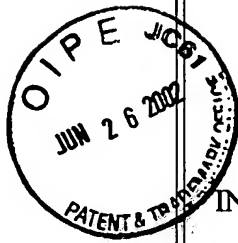


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#6/PPS
Amended
7/15/02

IN RE APPLN. OF SAKUMA et al, 10/074,961

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

SERIAL NO.: 10/074,961

FILED: February 13, 2002

FOR: CIRCULAR SHAPED METAL STRUCTURE METHOD ...

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Assistant Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicants hereby attach U.S. Patent Office Form PTO-1449. The present application is a divisional of application Serial No. 09/727,806, wherein the references referred to in the enclosed U.S. Patent Office Form PTO-1449 have been previously submitted or cited. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no copies of these references are believed necessary. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

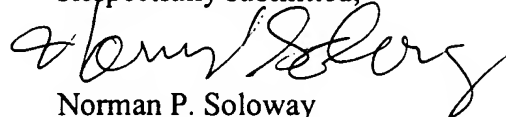
This Information Disclosure Statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitutes prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

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This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before issuance of the first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, we believe that there are no fees involved. However, in the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



Norman P. Soloway
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 24,315

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on June 20, 2002 at Tucson, Arizona.

By:  _____

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